

Message Text

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15

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 OFA-01 L-03 IO-11

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CEQ-01 INT-05 SMI-01 DODE-00

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R 260224Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 948

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WELLINGTON 0728

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, NZ

SUBJ: WHALING NATIONS NOT MEMBERS OF THE
INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

REF STATE A-805

1. E/C COUNSELOR SPOKE WITH MURRAY THORNLEY
OF UN DIVISION, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ABOUT DESIRABILITY OF NZ MEMBERSHIP IN THE
INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION (IWC).
THORNLEY SAID HIS OFFICE WAS PREPARING A BRIEFING PAPER
FOR MINISTERIAL CONSIDERATION ON POSSIBLE GNZ
MEMBERSHIP.

2. HE SAID THE GNZ OBSERVERS TO THE JUNE 1975
IWC MEETING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED GNZ JOINING IWC.
HE SAID THERE IS SOME CONCERN IN GNZ CIRCLES THAT
IF THE MEMBERSHIP OF NON-WHALING NATIONS BECOMES
TOO LARGE, SUCH IMPORTANT WHALING COUNTRIES AS THE USSR
AND JAPAN MAY FEEL THE BALANCE BETWEEN WHALING AND
NON-WHALING NATIONS COULD SHIFT AGAINST WHALING
NATIONS AND THEIR INTERESTS MIGHT SUFFER.
LACKING BACKGROUND OR GUIDANCE EMBASSY OFFICER
DID NOT COMMENT ON THIS POINT. HE DID, HOWEVER
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STRESS THE IMPORTANT ROLE NON-WHALERS CAN PLAY IN

IWC AND GNZ'S NATURAL INTEREST IN MATTERS HANDLED
BY IWC BECAUSE OF NZ'S PROXIMITY TO ANTARTIC WHALING
GROUNDS.

3. THRONLEY WILL INCLUDE IN BRIEFING PAPER WHICH
IS BEING PREPARED MENTION OF EMBASSY'S APPROACH.
HE PROMISED TO KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED OF GNZ
DICATION, WHICH COULD BE FAIRLY SOON AS, IF GOVERNMENT
DECIDES TO JOIN, IT WOULD WANT TO ATTEND NEXT SCHEDULED
MEETING.
SELDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, WHALING, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976WELLIN00728
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760072-0430
From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976027/aaaaafzb.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE A-805
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUN 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <07 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WHALING NATIONS NOT MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION
TAGS: SENV, NZ, IWC-1, (THORNLEY, MURRAY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006